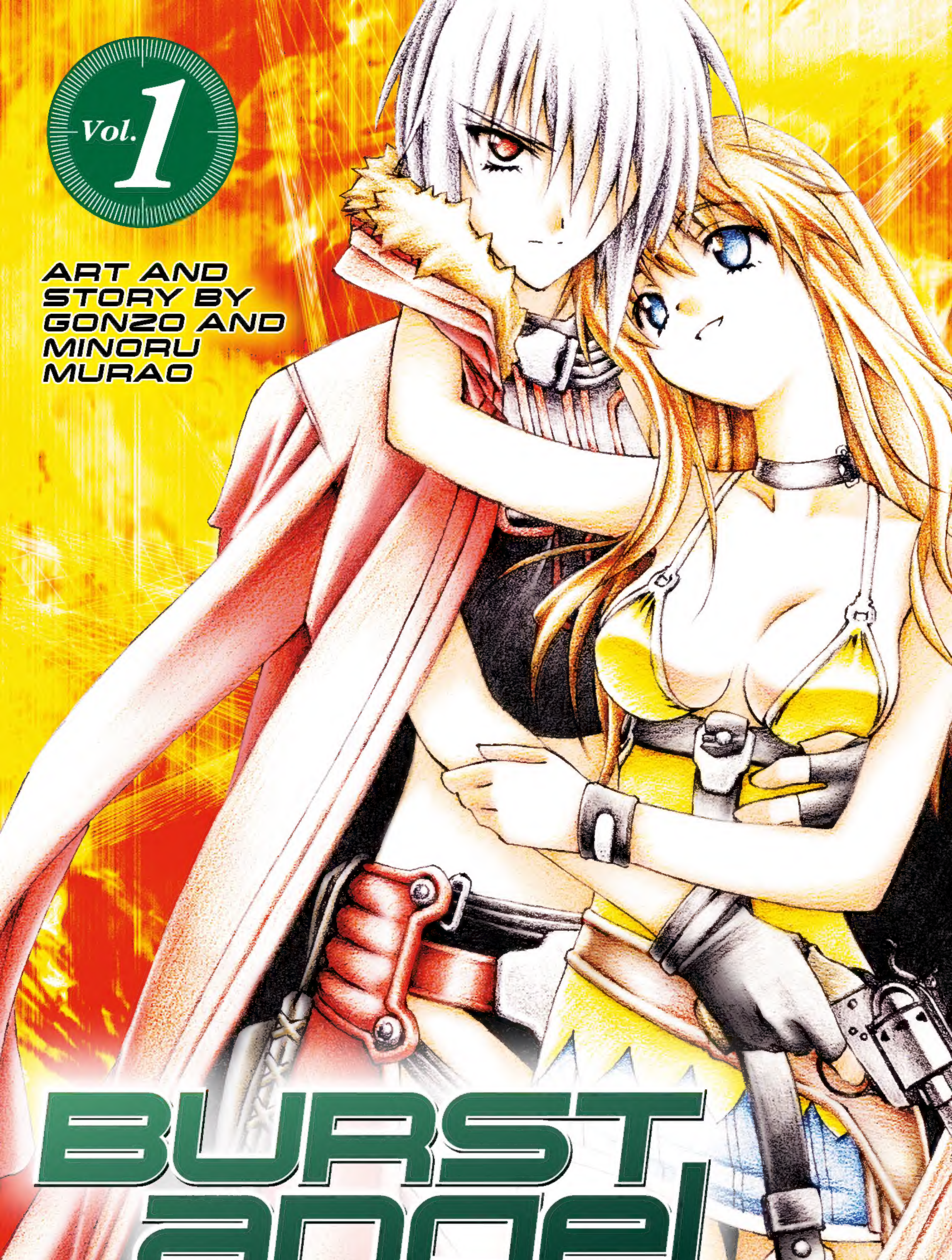
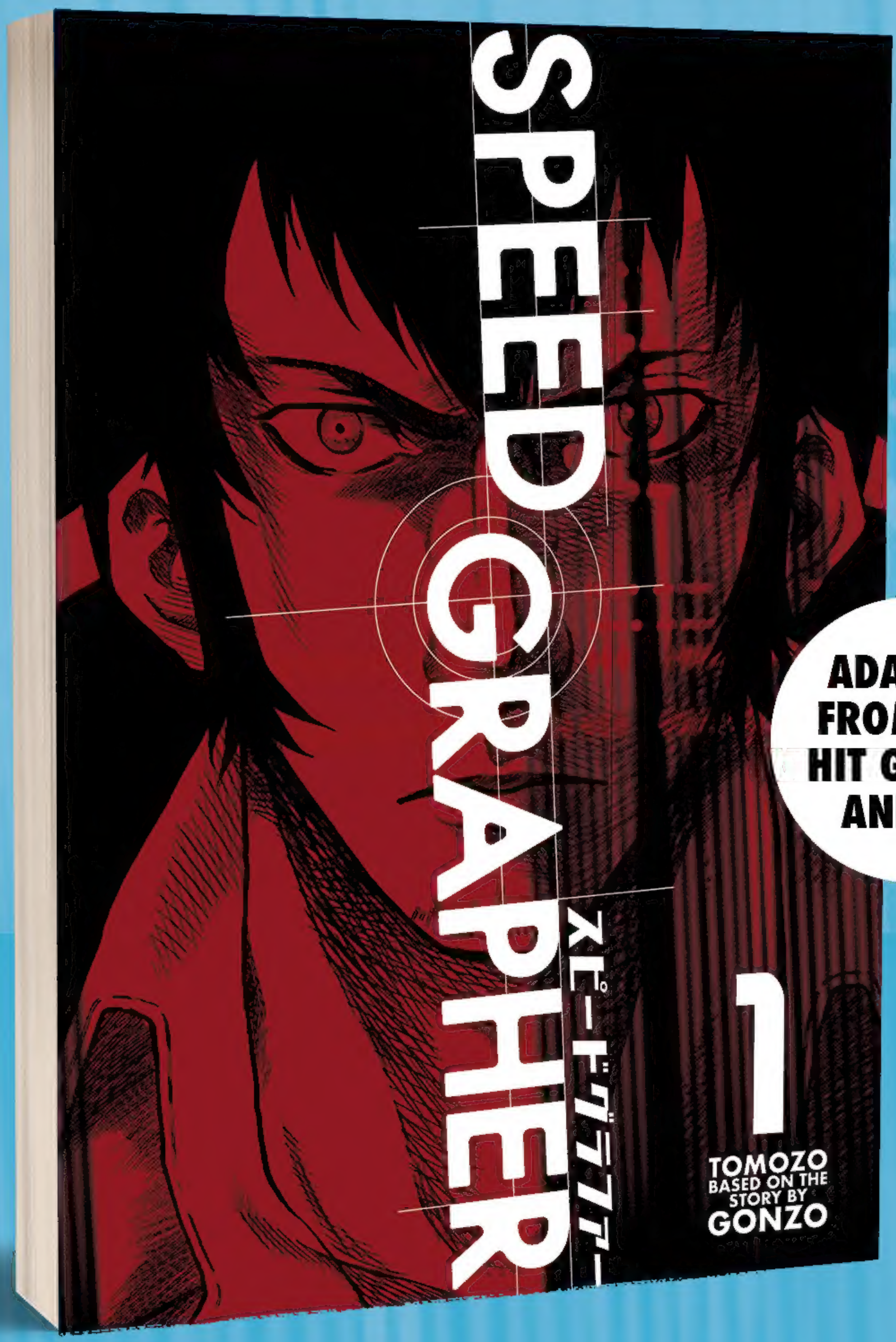
Vol. 1

ART AND STORY BY GONZO AND MINORU MURAO



BURST angel

JOIN A WHITE-KNUCKLE THRILL-RIDE THROUGH A STRANGE WORLD OF SUPERPOWERS!!



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TITAN MANGA

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爆裂天使

BURST angel™

Vol. 1

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BURST ANGEL

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STOP!

This manga is presented in its original right-to-left reading format.

Pages, panels, and speech balloons read from top right to bottom left, as shown above. SFX translations are placed adjacent to their original Japanese counterparts.

BURST angel

ART AND STORY BY
GONZO AND MINORU MURAO

TRANSLATION BY
MOTOKO TAMAMURO AND
JONATHAN CLEMENTS

LETTERING BY
BENSIDI AYOUB

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HUFF
HUFF

HUFF
HUFF

THEY'RE GETTING AWAY! AFTER THEM!!

TUG

OOOOOO

ACT.1

UGH ...

ZONK ドスッ

URGH!!

WHAT? IS THAT IT?

YOU GOTTA BE KIDDING...

BRING MORE TOMORROW!

OH...
KA-CHA
カチャ
IT'S OPEN.
HUH?
IS MOM HOME?
RUB
RUB

MM? SHE'S NOT HERE...

LEFT YOU SOME CURRY. MOM

I'M SORRY.

REACH—

...

WHAT'S THAT?!

MY ROOM?

ドン!

THUD!

ビク STARTLE

ドン THUMP

ドン THUMP

KA-CHA

EHHH...

...

THAT'S WHAT I WAS GONNA SAY!

WHO ARE YOU?

IT'S MY ROOM!!

Oh dear!

YOU ENTERED A GIRL'S ROOM WITHOUT KNOCKIN' ...?

SIGH

OUT! NOW! I'LL CALL THE POLICE!!

WHO ARE YOU? THIS IS MY ROOM.

DON'T CHANGE THE SUBJECT!

ANYWAY, I'M HUNGRY. HAVE YOU GOT SOME-THING TO EAT?

I PICKED IT♡

I can unlock rotary locks, too.

FOR STARTERS, HOW DID YOU GET IN? IT WAS LOCKED, RIGHT?!

YOU MAKE IT SOUND SO EASY.

POUT

...TAKE?

IF YOU'RE HUNGRY, YOU COULD'VE JUST TAKEN SOME-THING FROM THE KITCHEN.

BUT YOU'RE A BURGLAR, RIGHT?

I CAN'T JUST TAKE AND EAT SOMEONE'S FOOD LIKE A BURGLAR.

DON'T BE SO UPTIGHT. CAN'T WE JUST CHILL FOR A WHILE.

NO.

You picked the lock, too!

I'VE LITERALLY JUST CAUGHT YOU BREAKING AND ENTERING!

...

REALLY?

OH WELL.

ANY WAY AROUND IT?

GO NOW, OR I'LL CALL THE COPS.

NO CHANCE!!

PUUSH ズズズ

ゴゴゴゴゴ

I DIDN'T WANT TO RESORT TO THIS.

huh?

BUT IF THAT'S WHAT YOU'RE GONNA DO, I'LL SHOW NO MERCY!

GRRR—
KEKEKEKE
I'LL TELL YOUR MOM ABOUT THE PORN HIDDEN IN YOUR ROOM.

HUH?

ALL RIGHT, ALL RIGHT!!

WHAT WILL SHE SAY? HER SON IS SUPPOSED TO BE STUDYING HARD, BUT IS REALLY SNEAKING A LOOK AT DIRTY MAGS... "FINALLY, MY LITTLE BOY IS OLD ENOUGH TO KNOW ABOUT THE BIRDS AND THE BEES..." SHE'LL SAY!

OH!!

FWIP

WAIT...

WHAT GOT INTO YOU...?

OUCH.

AARGH!

TOSS

IS SOMEONE THERE?

STARTLE

Oops

OH NO! SHE'S INJURED.

WE'VE GOTTA GET HER TO THE HOSPITAL.

WAIT!

DASH

SO...

JUST LET US REST AWHILE. THEN WE'LL GO.

Huh?

B-BUT...

PLEASE. NO HOSPITALS.

...

I BEG YOU.

...DON'T CONTACT THE AUTHORITIES.

THANKS.

OH...

MY FAMILY WON'T BE BACK 'TIL LATE, SO YOU CAN STAY 'TIL THEN.

WHAT?! THEY GOT AWAY?!

MY MEN ARE SEARCHING THE AREA, SO WE SHOULD FIND HER IN NO TIME.

THEY CAN'T GO FAR.

SORRY, BOSS. PRETTY SURE WE WINGED HER.

THE WOMAN HAS A HUGE PRICE ON HER HEAD.

LISTEN!

STUB

SIR.

NO EXCUSES.

YOU'LL FIND HER!

BEEP

MMM

WE FOUND HER.

THAT'S RIGHT.

KNOT

THAT'S IT.

AND HOW IS SHE?

PHEW. IT'S DONE.

ZZZ

ZZZ

I'M SO RELIEVED...

SHE GOT HURT TRYING TO PROTECT ME... SO...

FINE. THE WOUND ISN'T DEEP.

WHAT A RELIEF.

SIGH

Yup.

But all I did was stop the bleeding. If she moves, the wound will open!

YOU CAN TREAT A WOUND. AMAZING.

HEY!

I GET BULLIED AT SCHOOL.

Don't tell my mom.

HUH?

I DON'T WANT MY PARENTS TO WORRY ABOUT ME, SO I FIX MYSELF.

SO I GRADUALLY LEARNED HOW TO DO IT...

I can hide internal bleeding.

SO...

...NOT THAT AMAZING AFTER ALL.

...

LISTEN.

YOU SHOULD TAKE AN EYE FOR AN EYE.

NO WAY.

IT WOULD ONLY MAKE THINGS WORSE.

I KNOW... I KNOW, BUT...

...

BUT, I...

IF YOU DO WHAT THEY WANT, THEY'LL KEEP DOING IT TO YOU.

show some guts.

OPEN

OH... SHE'S AWAKE.

JO!

FWIP

SLIDE

HUUH?

AL-READY?

From the window?

MEG, WE'RE GOING.

DAMN!

WE'RE SUR-ROUNDED.

...I'M TAKERU.

OH YEAH. WHAT'S YOUR NAME?

I APPRECIATE YOU, TAKERU.

THANKS FOR...

EVERYTHING.

+RUSTLE

WE'RE ON THE SEVENTH FLOOR!

WAIT.

It's a badge of honor.

NEXT TIME, FIGHT BACK. MAKE SOME WOUNDS OF YOUR OWN!

Hang in there!

JUMP

THUD

UGH...

WHOOOOOSH
MEG, STAY BACK.
Okay.
INCREDIBLE.
JABBER
JABBER
JUMPING DOWN FROM SO HIGH WITHOUT A SCRATCH?
WHAT A BADASS!

TA-KI

K-KILL HER!

SHOOT!!

GR...

DOT DOT

DOT DOT

DOT DOT

DOT

TWIP

BANG
BANG
BANG

BA-
BANG
BANG
BANG
BANG
BANG
BOOM
BOOM
FLIP
RA
TAT
TAT
TAT
TAT
DUT DUT DUT
KA-CHAK

KA-CHA

DAMN IT!

THUD

DIE!!

RA TAT TAT

DUT DUT DUT DUT DUT

EEK!

I must do something... but...

Someone is chasing them.

And if I'm shot...

what can I do...?

CLENCH

DOKU DOKU

WHAM

WHAT...

...ON EARTH...

...IS HAPPENING?

BAM

GRAB

SHE'S INJURED!

FWIP

BOOM

BOOM

BOOM

ドゥ BANG ドゥ BANG

BAAAAAAM

J-

JESUS CHRIST!

THUD

ドサ

ダ ダ ダ DAAAASH ダ

HUFF

HUFF

TAP

TAP

TAP

...!

QUIET... IT'S ME.

Oh, you're...

CALM DOWN!

GRAB

!

SWISH

!!

KACHING

DIE!!

WATCH OUT!

カリ
KABOOM
ヒュン
ZIP

FLAP
KABLAM
BANG
IS SHE A MONSTER?!
SHE SHOT DOWN THE GRENADE.
WHAT THE...

W-

NO ONE CAN STOP JO WHEN SHE'S GOING ALL-OUT!

WOW!

EVEN WITH THAT WOUND!

JO?

YUP!

THE ONE WHO'S FIGHTING THERE.

THE ONE WHO'S POWERFUL, COOL, AND SUPER-WONDERFUL. THAT'S JO!

Are you listening?

AND I'M MEG.

...

JO...

TAKERU,
YOU'RE BENCHED
FOR A WHILE!
HUH?!
BULLIED
AGAIN?!

BURST angel™

BURST
angel

ACT.2

TOKYO, 20XX AD, THE CITY THAT WAS ONCE DUBBED AS THE SAFEST IN THE WORLD.

NOW IT IS LAWLESS, A HOTBED OF CRIME AND VIOLENCE, JUST LIKE THE WILD WEST WHERE 'GUNS AND MIGHT ARE RIGHT'.

ALL YOU CAN COUNT ON IS YOUR SKILLS AND YOUR FIREPOWER!

HEY, JO!

JUNK OF ALL TRADES
WE'LL DO WHATEVER!
YOU'RE SPENDING WAY OVER BUDGET.
JO, ARE YOU LISTENING?!
...WE'RE IN THE RED AGAIN THIS MONTH!
AMMO ISN'T FREE...
Did you need a gun at all?
WHY DID YOU HAVE TO SHOOT 100 BULLETS TO FIND A PET?

sigh

...IT'S YOUR FAULT.

LAST MONTH'S RENT IS OVERDUE AND WE DON'T HAVE CASH FOR TOMORROW'S FOOD.

YOU ARE JO, RIGHT?

KNOCK KNOCK KNOCK

HELLO.

GA=CHA

RUMBLE

SIIIGH

SOME PEOPLE DO HAVE MONEY.

WHAT A MANSION!

TAKERU'S APARTMENT BLOCK WAS NICE, TOO.

HE'S THE ONE WHO TREATED YOUR WOUND.

DID YOU FORGET ALREADY?

Come this way.

OH!

TAK-ERU? WHO'S THAT?

...

I MEAN, FOR PEOPLE LIKE US WHO GREW UP IN A SLUM...

WOW, IT'S FALLING APART...

WHAT HAP-PENED?

MOVE ALONG, PLEASE. MY BOSS IS WAITING.

...

CREEEAK

A WOMAN ...

HUH?!

M'LADY, THEY ARE HERE.

PHEEEE

ガラ-
CLICK!
ゴト-
CLICK
WE JUST SELL THIS OFF BACK HOME, AND WE'RE RICH.
WHAT'RE YOU LOOKING AT?
HUH?
ZZZT
LIKE TAKING CANDY FROM A BABY!
WELL, THAT JOB WAS EASY MONEY!
PHEEEEEEE
CLINK
BUT SHE TREASURED IT SO MUCH.
OH, THAT RING.
YEAH.
KIND OF PLAIN FOR SUCH A RICH GIRL.

SHEEEE

HUH? IS IT?

IT MUST BE WORTH A LOT!

...SO THEY DID THIS TO THE BUILDING.

LUCKILY NO ONE WAS HURT, BUT...

LAST NIGHT, ARMED ROBBERS BURST IN...

SST

THERE'S A REWARD.

THEY'RE ARMED, RIGHT? DANGER-OUS.

Huh?

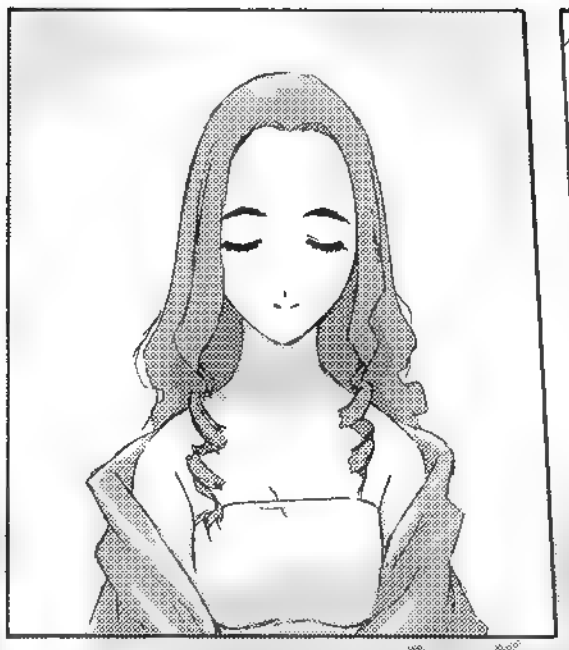
WE WOULD LIKE YOU TO GET THE RING BACK FROM THE GANG.

QUICK
WE ARE SO IN!
A BLANK CHEQUE. WHEN YOU SUCCEED, YOU CAN WRITE WHATEVER AMOUNT YOU'D LIKE...

we should go for dinner first.
THUMP
ドキ
THUMP
ドキ
I'm spending the money in my head.

THUD
ドス
ARGH!

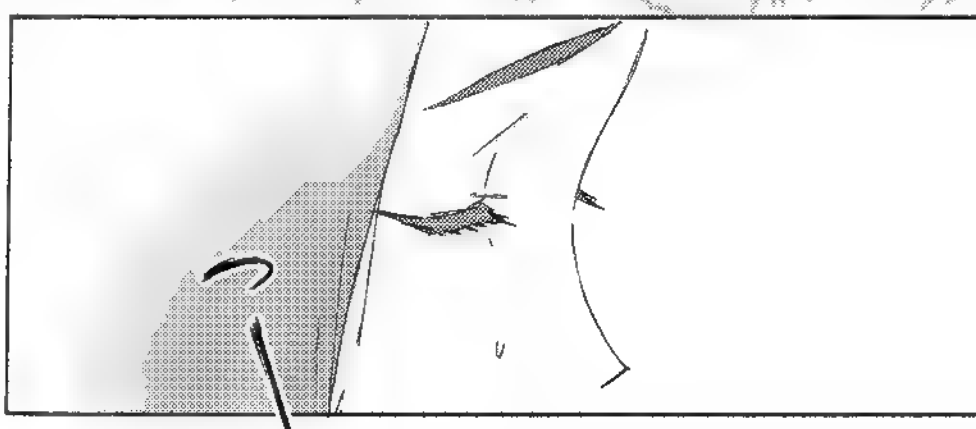
SST



A TREASURE I CANNOT BUY WITH MONEY.

IT HAS UNTOLD SENTIMENTAL VALUE.

THAT'S THE RING MY FATHER PROPOSED TO MY MOTHER WITH.



I'M GETTING MARRIED.

I WAS PLANNING TO WEAR THAT RING AT THE WEDDING.

THAT WAY, I THOUGHT MY PARENTS COULD WATCH ME FROM HEAVEN...

...HEA-VEN.

THE WEDDING'S AT NOON TOMOR-ROW.

YOUR JOB IS TO GET THE RING BACK BY THEN. WILL YOU DO IT?

BUT THIS HAP-PENED ...

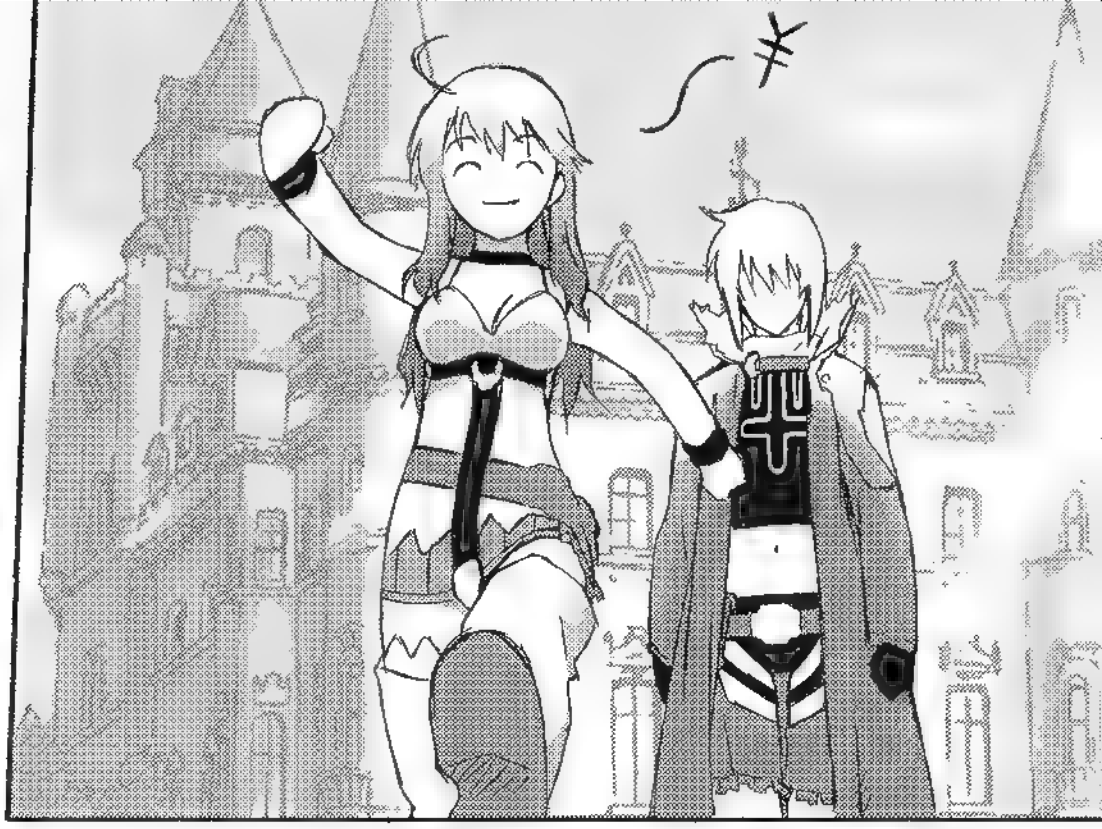
Sob

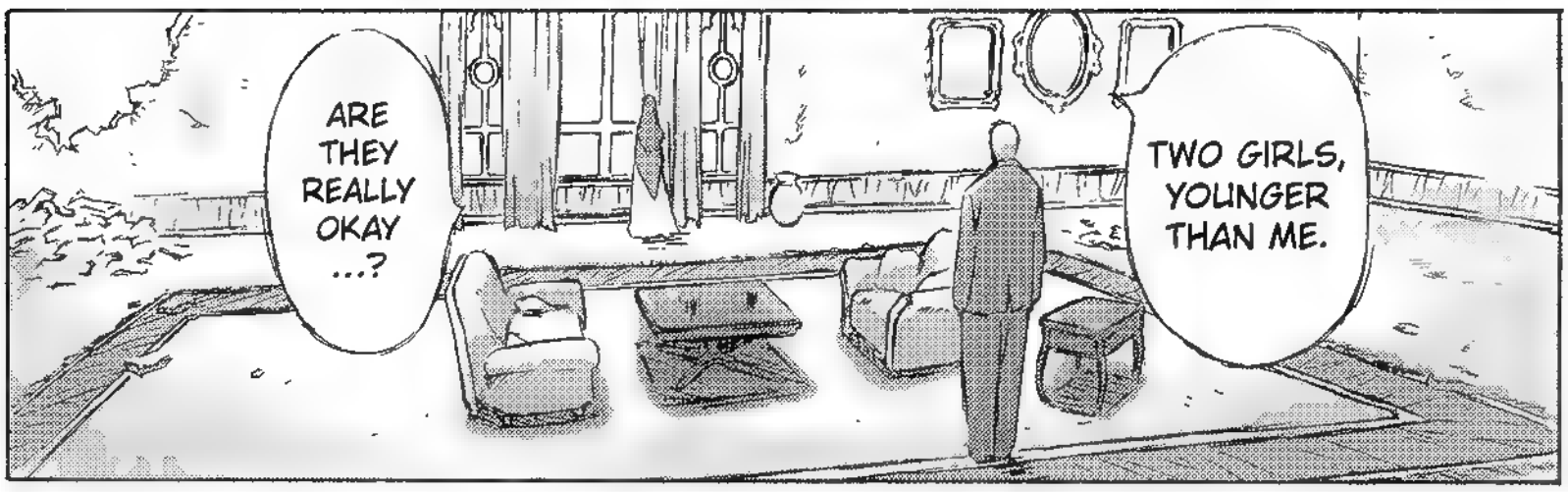
FWIP

WE'LL BE SURE TO GET THE RING BACK TO YOU!

WE'LL TAKE ON THIS ASSIGNMENT.

T-THANK YOU.




ARE THEY REALLY OKAY ...?
TWO GIRLS, YOUNGER THAN ME.

RUMBLE RUMBLE
OR WORSE, THEY MIGHT BE TRAFFICKED AND FORCED TO GRIND WHEAT IN A FOREIGN COUNTRY...
オロ panic
panic オロ
BECAUSE I ASKED THEM TO DO THIS, I PUT THEM IN DANGER.

YES, THEY WILL!
THEY'LL BE FINE.
ARE YOU SURE?
OR OATS?
NO!
M'LADY, CALM DOWN.

FIVE OF THEM ALTOGETHER. THEY'RE ABOUT TO STOW THE STOLEN GOODS.

1...

...2.

THEY'RE FLEEING OVERSEAS AS THE INTEL SUGGESTS.

DO YOU THINK WE CAN DO IT, MEG?

Huh?

FIVE OPPS. IT'LL BE TRICKY.

I'VE ENTERTAINED A LARGER NUMBER OF MEN IN THE PAST♡

That was amazing...

why are you grinning?

5 OR 6 OF THESE BOYS ARE NOTHING.

...

JO!

WHIIINE ウィー

!

AS PLANNED.

YEAH!

RIGHT. LET'S GO!

GO!

!

KACHING

WHO'S THERE?!

TAT

TAT

TAT

TAT

BAM

BAM

BAM

BAM

BAM

BAM

TAP

OUT

BAM

THUD

RAT TAT

TAP TAP TAP

DAMN IT! SHE MOVES AROUND LIKE A RAT.

UP THERE!

JUMP

KUT DUT DUT

!!

WHOOSH

KCH

BAS-
TARD
...

...BE
GONE!

SWISH

KABLAM

F.K.A.
CHING
SKWD

WHO THE HELL ARE YOU?

GLINT

I DON'T KNOW HOW YOU FOUND US, OH, WELL.

I BET YOU'VE COME TO STEAL OUR STASH.

WHAT THE...?

ONE PERSON? I WONDER.

BUT ONLY ONE PERSON? YOU UNDERESTIMATED US.

KABOOM

HUH?! THE SHIP!!

!

CLANG
GA-SHA
WHOOSH
WHAM
WHAM
WHAM
SHE SHOT THE GUNS OUT OF FOUR MEN'S HANDS IN A SPLIT-SECOND.
WHAT THE...
BZZ
BZZ
RUMBLE
RUMBLE
RUMBLE
RUMBLE
NOW YOU DON'T HAVE A GETAWAY SHIP.
YOU'VE LOST!

PHEW.

LOOKS LIKE IT'S GONE WELL.

Slap

DAMN IT!

HUH?

DIE!

AT LEAST I'LL TAKE YOU WITH ME.

Oh?

OH, NOOOOOO!

OH DEAR...

...I'M SOAKED ♡

OOOH!

OH.

AHHH, SHALL I TAKE IT OFF?

WHOOPEE!!

OH!

KCHAK

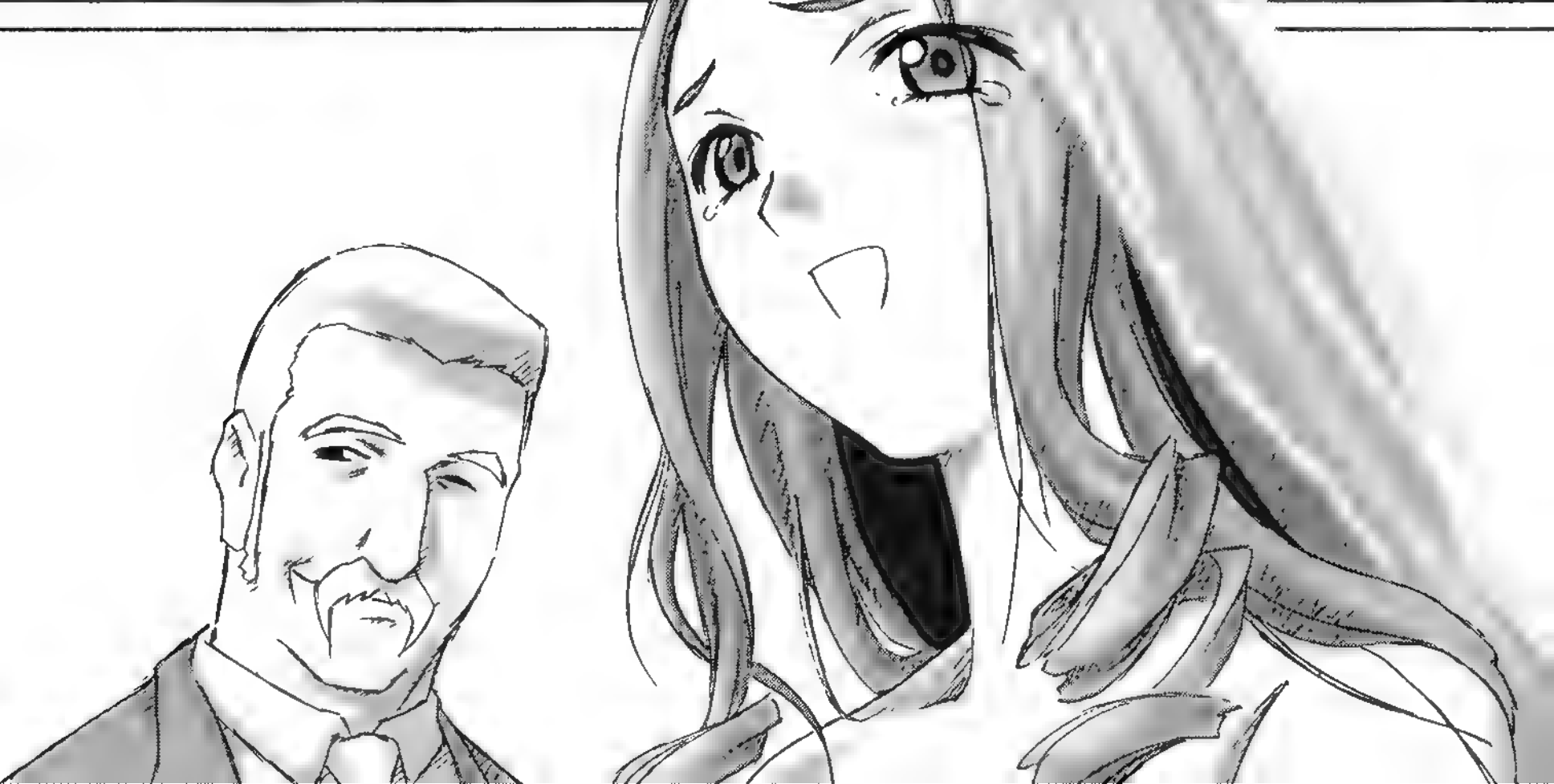
THAT'S IT.

べーだ!

BLEH!

HUH?

GLINT



THIS TYPE OF WORK ISN'T TOO BAD, HUH?

I BET SHE WILL!

SO YOU THINK SHE'LL BE HAPPY?

MEG ...

HEHE

HUH?

... THANKS FOR THE GOOD JOB.

YEAH.

WHAT'RE YOU TALKING ABOUT? I'M YOUR PARTNER.

OH, THAT.

RUMMAGE

HOW MUCH SHALL WE SAY? WE CAN WRITE THE LARGEST AMOUNT IT ALLOWS, RIGHT?

THUMP THUMP

THE REWARD!

OH!

PAT

CHECK REGISTER SYSTEMS

¥

50000

PAY TO THE ORDER OF

THAT'S HOW MUCH RENT WE OWE!

¥50,000... WHAT'S THIS?

I GUESS WE COULD'VE HAVE ADDED SOMETHING FOR TO-MORROW'S FOOD...

TREMBLE TREMBLE フル フル

JO...?

OH.

YOU'RE A FOOL, JOOOO!!

JO
LOOKING
FOR A
PET.
BANG BANG

BURST angel™

BURST
angel

ACT.3

A FIVE-YEAR-OLD WHO GOES TO ST. STEPHEN'S KINDERGARTEN.

MANAMI SUGIMOTO.

THEY MUST HAVE HUNDREDS OF MILLION YENS' WORTH OF ASSETS AT HOME.

THE ONLY CHILD OF THE CEO OF SUGIMOTO SOFTWARE, A MEDIUM-SIZED BUSINESS THAT'S BEEN GROWING IN RECENT YEARS.

YEAH.

HUNDREDS OF MILLIONS! SO IF WE MANAGE THIS ABDUCTION ...

WE'LL BE RICH!

GRIN

WE CAN'T EVEN BREAK EVEN.

RED... RED...

RED...

AND THIS MONTH, TOO ...

THUMP THUMP

CAGY

PEEP

FLASH

IN THE RED AGAIIIIN!!

AA AAR GH!

WHY ARE WE IN DEFICIT MONTH AFTER MONTH? WE'RE WORKING SO HARD EVERY DAY.

WE'RE STILL POOR. IS THIS OUR DESTINY?

BOO HOOOO

HAVE WE DONE SOMETHING TO DESERVE THIS?

...WELL, WE HAVE DONE A LOT.

No, quite a lot, I suppose.

GOD, WHY ARE YOU TREAT-ING US SO BADLY?

SNIFF

ALL I WANT IS TO HAVE A NICE QUIET LIFE WITH JO...

Please God.

Is she all right?

haa SIIGH

JO!

I'LL HELP.

Oof

...OH WELL, LET'S WORK.

HUH?

JACK OF ALL TRADES

WE'LL HELP YOU IN YOUR LIFE
CLEANING
THROW AWAY GARBAGE
LOOK FOR YOUR LOST PET
WE'LL DO ANYTHING

SSTスッ!!

THANK YOU!!

JACK OF ALL TRADES

Thank you

Take it

yes

CLONK

カチャン

NO, THAT'S PIE IN THE SKY.

CAN WE GET MONEY FOR NOTH-ING?

Hm

Here.

SERI-OUSLY, IT'S HARD BEING POOR, RIGHT?

CUZ WE'RE POOR.

DOING SOMETHING A BIT BAD IS ACCEPTABLE, RIGHT?

OR SHALL WE DO SOME-THING BAD?

IF WE JUST DID ONE OR TWO LITTLE BANK ROBBERIES, THAT WOULDN'T BE A BIG DEAL, RIGHT...?

HEHEHE

KEKEKE

WAH—

SQUEAL

SQUEAL

OH, I'M HALF-JOKING.

So, half-serious, then?

HOW ABOUT KIDNAPPING FOR RANSOM? FORCIBLY PROVIDE PROTECTION TO A SMALL CHILD AND PLEAD FOR RANSOM.

YEAH

YEAH

USING A CAR, ABDUCTION IS A PIECE OF CAKE.

I MEAN, IT WOULDN'T BE THAT HARD.

...

WHAT'S UP?

WAIT UNTIL SHE'S ISOLATED.

NOT YET.

KUN KUN

OI!

LET'S HAND OUT THE REST OF THESE FLYERS.

TAP

RIGHT!

FLUTTER

OH, THANK YOU.

YOU DROPPED IT.

Mm?

HELLO.

TAP

TAP

RIGHT!

NOW!!

BROOOAR

HUH?!

ドン

SHOVE

MEG, WATCH OUT!

WHAM

JO !!

ズザザザザザ

CREEP

!

SCREECH

GA-CHAK

AAARGH!

TUK

BANG

WHAT?!

THAT BITCH...

I KNOW!

THWIP

THWACK

DAMN IT! GET THE KID QUICKLY!

BANG

BANG

BANG

ARGH!

COME!

MANAMI!!

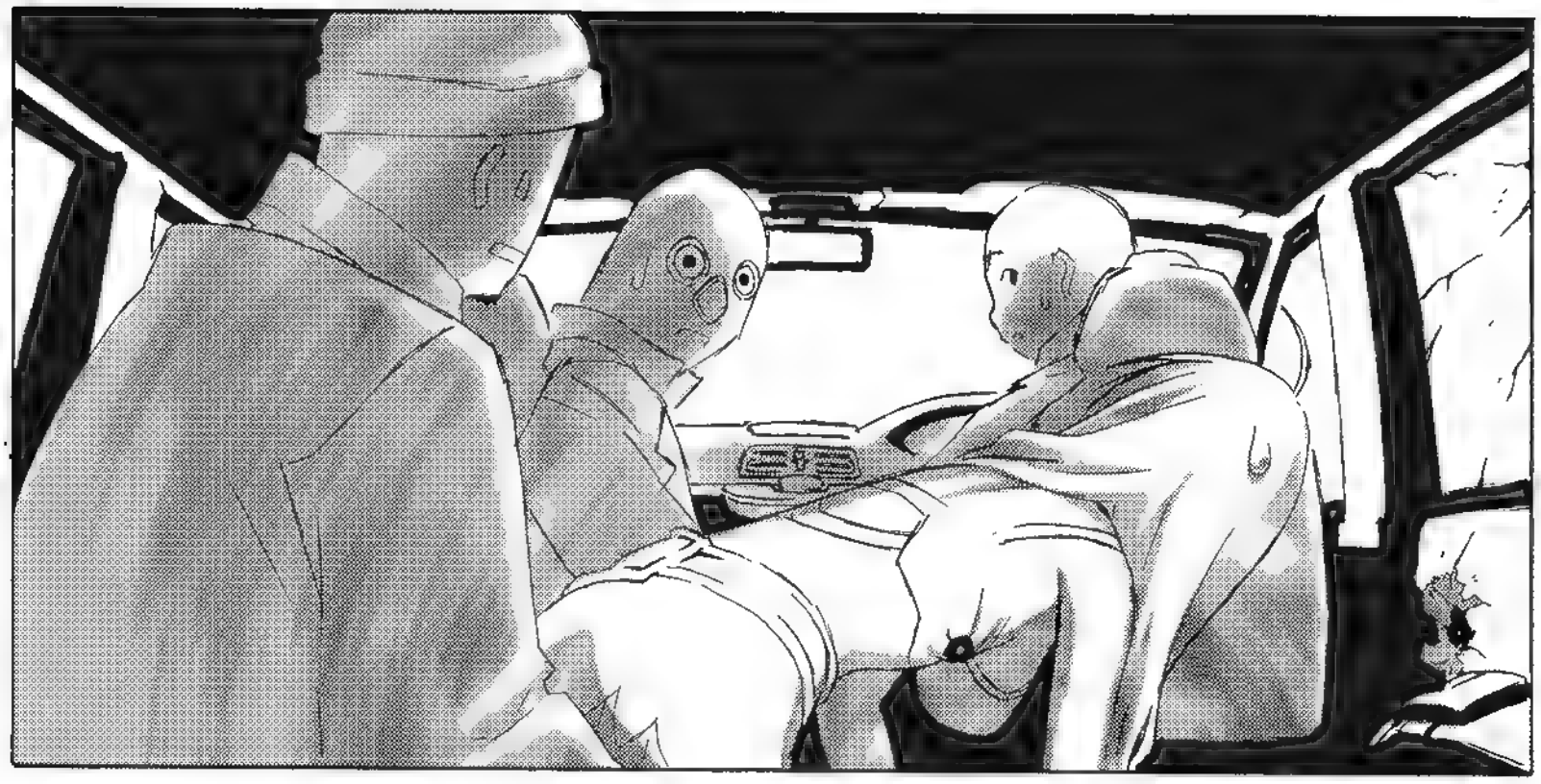
ROAR

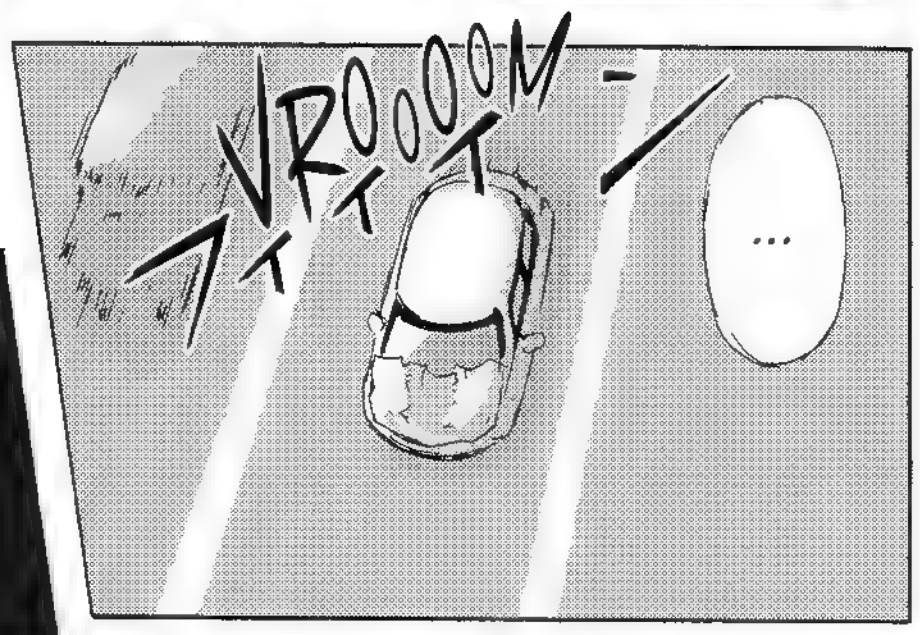
HISCREE

...YES.

HUH?

HUH?

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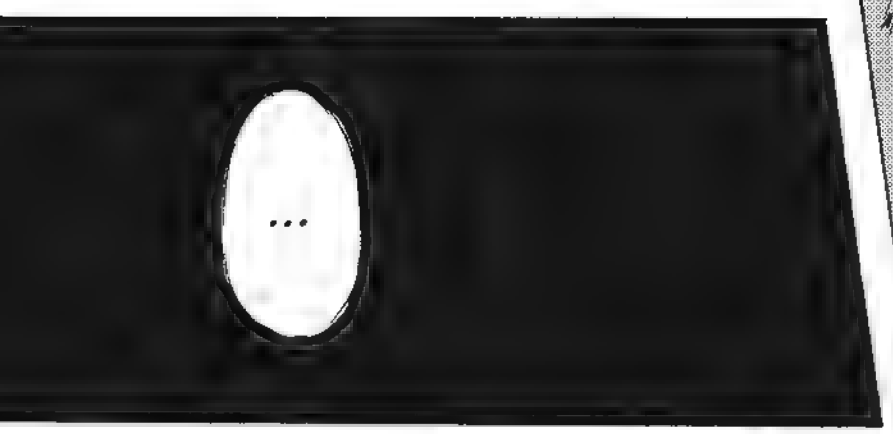

...

びえーん
BOO HOO

HEY, YOU SHOULDN'T MOVE!

There There.

I was scared.

?!

YOU'RE NOT. YOU WERE RUN OVER!

I'M FINE.

SOMEONE! CALL AN AMBULANCE!

YES!!

UGH!

THUD

GRR

THE AMBULANCE IS ON ITS WAY. STAY PUT...

ビク
FLINCH

HUH... WHAT?

HEY!

BANG

DAMN IT!!

SWIIIIISH

DAYS OF PLANNING, ONLY TO KIDNAP THE WRONG KID!

SHIT!

WE'LL BE POOR FOREVER!

CALM DOWN.

HOW CAN I?!

JUST LOOK AT THE BODY ON HER.

WE CAN GET GOOD MONEY FOR HER.

...TRUE.

GRIN

...
JO'LL RESCUE ME!

YOU CAN'T SELL ME CUZ...

I'VE HEARD THAT BEFORE...

HEHE

SORRY MISS. WE HAVE TO DO THIS TO SURVIVE.

HMM?

...

SHE CAN'T MOVE. SHE WAS HIT BY THE CAR.

THE GIRL YOU WERE WITH? NO WAY.

HUH?

GLINT

IT CAN'T BE... SOMEONE IS TAILING US.

Full of holes.

I WAS SHOCKED SHE FOUGHT BACK, THOUGH.

ALSO, WE'VE BEEN DRIVING FOR A WHILE. SHE CAN'T FIND US!

ST. STEPHEN KINDER-GARTEN, #2 SCHOOL BUS, HERE WE COME!

BOAK

WHAT THE HELL?

A fool...

EEE

WHOOSH

GRR!

JUMP!

SCREECH

UGH!

UGH
...
TAP

JO!

HOW DID SHE FIND US...?

IS THE BITCH IMMORTAL?

I KNEW YOU'D COME.

!

CRUMPLE

SHE'S BEEN PUSHING LEAFLETS THROUGH THE BULLET HOLE!

CAN IT BE YOU?!

Teehee!

THE OTHER ONE FOLLOWED THEM.

CHA-KI

LET MEG GO.

GASP...

YOU'RE THE LOWEST OF THE LOW TO KIDNAP SOMEONE FOR MONEY!

S-SHUT UP! SHE'S OUR CASH COW.

...

WHAT DO YOU KNOW?! THIS IS THE ONLY WAY TO SURVIVE FOR THE POOR LIKE US.

NOOO

YOU'RE AN ANIMAL.

TO SURVIVE, HUH...?

THUCK

SMASH

SWISH

MORE THAN ANYTHING ELSE.

FLINCH

たじ

YOU KIDNAPPED MY PARTNER. UNFORGIVABLE!

SHHHHH

you'll pay for this!

TAP TAP TAP

DAMN IT!

DASH!

ズSST

Boo Hoo

what's up?

JO, I'M SORRY. I WAS A NAUGHTY GIRL.

BUT IF YOU'RE RICH YOU BECOME A TARGET.

I HATE BEING POOR.

CK OF ALL TRADES

CLOSET

キュッ KNOT

I'LL RESCUE YOU.

HUH?

I NEVER WANT TO BE KIDNAPPED EVER AGAIN.

:).3 :).3

OUCH

EVERY TIME.

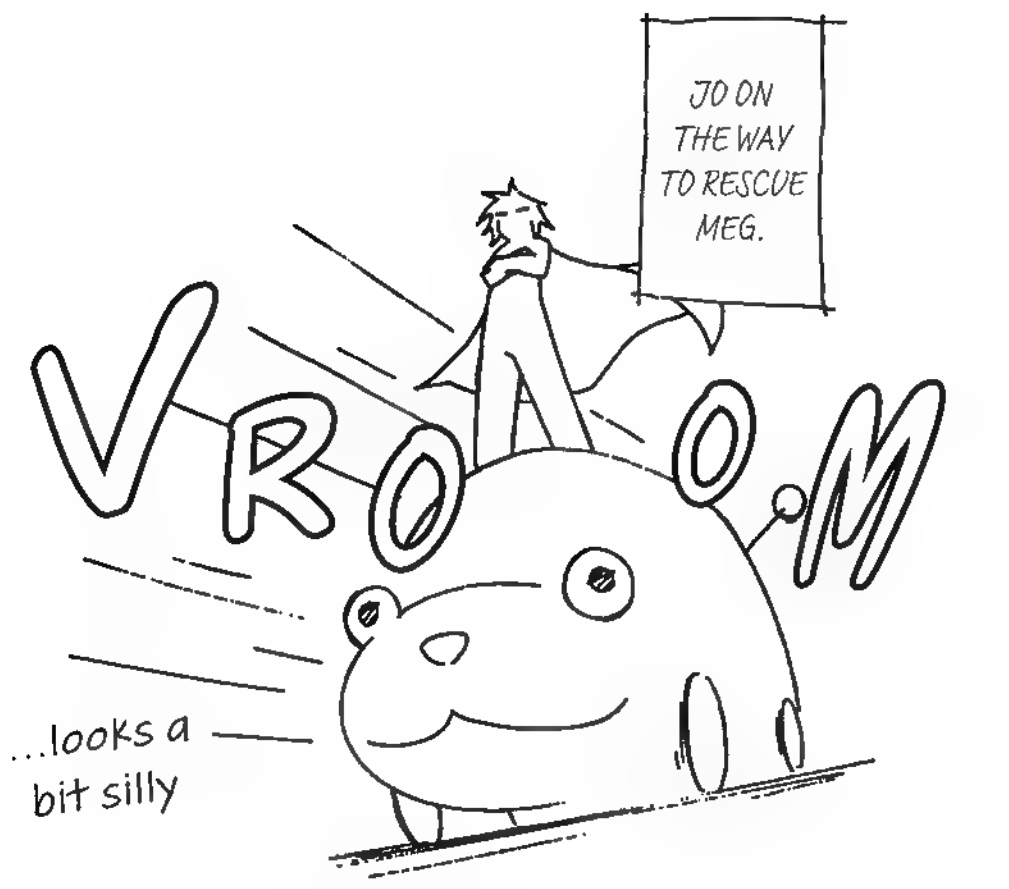
HUG

JO♡

Oh!

THANK YOU.

PLUMP


JO ON THE WAY TO RESCUE MEG.
VROOM
...looks a bit silly

BURST angel™

BURST
angel

WHOOOSH

WHAT A PLACE...

TO BECOME STRONG!

BUT I MUST SEE HER!

CLENCH グッ

ACT.4

SEEN HER, EH?

WANTED DEAD or ALIVE

JO

RIP

I'M LOOKING FOR THIS WOMAN.

FOO

WHAM

UGH!

YOU SHOULD STAY AWAY FROM HER.

EVERY-ONE IN THE UNDER-WORLD KNOWS.

IT SURE IS A SCARY PLACE ...

Thump

Thump

THAT'S NOT WHAT I ASKED.

WHIP

HUH?

I DUNNO IF THAT'S THE JO YOU'RE LOOKING FOR, BUT THAT'S ALL I KNOW!

THERE'S A PAIR OF DAMES WHO RUN JACK OF ALL TRADES AT THE EDGE OF THE SLUMS.

I MUST TELL HER...

DASH

IT MIGHT BE A FALSE ALARM, BUT...

COULD SHE BE THAT JO...?

KOFF

ARE YOU GONNA KILL HER?

SHE'S STRONG...

UGH ...

SST

KOFF

KOFF

THAT'S ALL I NEED TO KNOW.

...SHE'S A WORTHY OPP FOR US TO GAIN FAME!

THAT'S WHY...

I MUST HURRY, BUT WHERE SHOULD I GO ...?

TAP TAP TAP

SST

ARGH!

BUMP

THUD

OUCH... WHY DID YOU HAVE TO COME OUT OF NOWHERE?!

JEEZ!

OW—

HUH?

OH, YOU ARE...

MEG.

SIGH

ガリバ RISE

TAKERU?

HUH?!

The voice...

UH UH UH

SHAKE SHAKE SHAKE

ダダダ

LONG TIME NO SEE! WHAT'RE YOU DOING HERE?

AWWWW, IT'S YOU!

...

STILL GETTING BULLIED, EH?

Y- YES.

HAVE YOU BEEN WELL?

?

SQUEAK

SQUEAK

CLATTER

KA-CHAK

JO! IT'S TAKERU, FROM THE OTHER DAY...

Hello.

I'M HOME! WE'VE GOT A VISITOR!

SWISH

KACHING

HUH...?

YOU SHOULDN'T BE IN A PLACE LIKE THIS.

WHAT ARE YOU HERE FOR?

GO HOME.

...NO.

why?

JO?!

PLEASE LET ME STAY HERE!!

I DON'T WANT TO GO BACK TO A PLACE LIKE THAT!

Takeru?

...I MADE UP MY MIND AND TOLD THEM TO STOP IT.

BUT THEY DIDN'T LISTEN.

I'M BULLIED AND BEATEN AT SCHOOL EVERY DAY... BUT SINCE I MET YOU ON THAT DAY...

SO I TOLD THE TEACHER.

HUH?

WE DON'T WANT THAT KIND OF TROUBLE.

SIGH.

BUT...

UNDER-STOOD?!

ANYWAY, THERE'S NO BULLYING AT OUR SCHOOL.

AND IF IT DOES IT'S PROBABLY THE VICTIM WHO'S TO BLAME.

OH NO...

カタ CLATTER

BUT I...

WE'RE A PRESTIGIOUS PRIVATE SCHOOL. BULLYING DOESN'T EXIST.

...

NO. ANNOYING.

JO... LET ME STAY WITH YOU.

I DON'T WANT TO GO BACK TO A PLACE LIKE THAT.

I DON'T CARE!

IT'S DANGER-OUS. YOU COULD DIE!

PLEASE! I WANT TO BE STRONG LIKE YOU!

"CLENCH"

WHAT?

...THEN YOU CAN'T COMPLAIN IF YOU'RE KILLED RIGHT HERE.

IF THAT'S THE CASE...

"PULL"

DIE!

KACHAK

OH, OUT OF AMMO. I WAS IN THE MIDDLE OF CLEANING.

KACHING

FLINCH

DO DO DO DO

POUND

POUND

I'M SENDING TAKERU OFF!

HUH ...?

DASH!!

Meeeg

YEAH.

DON'T GET SCARED. THAT'S THE WAY SHE TALKS.

SO, JO ALREADY TOLD YOU.

I'm sure.

THIS AREA'S REALLY DANGEROUS. THEFTS, ROBBERIES... EVEN MURDER'S AN EVERYDAY OCCURRENCE.

I'VE SOMETHING TO GIVE YOU!

OH YES.

FUMBLE FUMBLE

BUT I DIDN'T REALIZE A PLACE LIKE THIS EXISTED IN TOKYO.

SUR-PRISED? IT'S QUITE DIFFERENT FROM WHERE YOU LIVE.

THE SCHOOL IS MILES AWAY. YOU CAN'T BE THERE RIGHT AWAY...

NO PROBLEM!

OF COURSE YOU CAN. I JUST HAVE TO PUNCH THOSE BULLIES!

OH NO... I CAN'T TAKE IT.

I made this after what happened last time.

WHAT IS THIS?

IT'S A TRANSMITTER. WHEN YOU'RE IN SERIOUS TROUBLE, JUST PRESS THE BUTTON. WE'LL BE RIGHT THERE.

JO CAN HIT A TARGET FROM THREE MILES.

Like a sniper?!

OH LOOK!

AS I THOU-GHT ...

THEIR TARGET IS JO.

WANTED DEAD or ALIVE

JO

$ 100,000

TAP TAP TAP

JEEZ.

DASH

OH! HEY!

I MUST TELL HER!

CREEP

CRACK

ダーン
THUD
ZSHA
ズ
キャ
CRUMBLE
パラ
CRUMBLE
パラ
SMASH
WHO ARE YOU?
WHOOSH
JUMP

SHH

HE'S DAMN QUICK!

!

BOOT

WHIP!

NO QUESTIONS ANSWERED, HUH?!

BANGBANG

UGH!

SKIIID

CRU SH

I'VE FOUND YOU, JO!

SWIIISH

CHING

I'LL CHOP YOU TO PIECES!

TAP TAP TAP

CRUCH

HOOOWL

WHAT THE...?!

SWISH

WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING AT?

SO FAST!

JO!

HUH?! IDIOT!

JO!

SLASH!!

TAP

SKIID

GUSH

YOU'RE AN ENHANCED HUMAN, HUH?

YOUR LEGS ...

GUSH GUSH

I AIMED AT YOUR NECK, BUT WHAT BRILLIANT REFL-EXES.

YOU AREN'T BAD, BUT YOU'RE FLESH AND BLOOD AFTER ALL. YOU CAN'T BE AT MY LEVEL.

THAT'S RIGHT! MY LEGS AND REFLEXES ARE ENHANCED.

HMPH! YOU CAN'T CATCH ME AT MY SPEED!

LET'S RUN AWAY AND ASK THE POLICE OR SOMEONE TO HELP...

JO, RUN AWAY! YOU CAN'T WIN.

SHUT UP!!

FLINCH

YOU'LL NEVER WIN IF YOU BUG OUT AND WAIT FOR BACK-UP.

I'LL NEVER RUN AWAY!

BANG

NO USE.

THWACK

SWISH

SHHH

YOU HAVE NO CHANCE!

HOW CAN I STOP HIM AND PUT A BULLET IN THE JERK?

THWACK

SWISH

BANG

THIS IS THE ONLY WAY!

BANG

TWO GUNSHOTS. FIVE IN TOTAL.

GUSH

GUSH

YOU'RE WASTING AMMO! THAT WILL BE THE COUNTDOWN TO YOUR DEFEAT!

BAAAANG

WHOOOOSH

SEVENTH!

BANG

SIXTH!

BOOM

EIGHTH!
YOU FOOL!!

!

SHOOT

AAAAP

ヒットポイント

I NEVER MISCOUNT REMAINING BULLETS.

I WON-DER.

YOU DON'T EVEN COUNT YOUR SHOTS, EH? PEOPLE OVER-ESTIMATE YOU.

THAT'S AN EIGHT-SHOOTER REVOLVER. YOU'RE OUT OF AMMO NOW.

HUH?

START

GUN SMOKE FROM YOUR LEFT HOLSTER ...?!

IT CAN'T BE!!

BANG

EIGHTH!

ROAR

OH WELL. HE'S JUST CANNON FODDER.

I THOUGHT SHE WAS JUST AN ADEPT SHOOTER, BUT SHE'S ALSO QUICK-WITTED. INDEED A TOUGH CUSTOMER.

HMPH!

JO ...

I'VE GOT A PLAN B!

DRIP
DRIP
DRIP
DRIP
DID YOU KILL HIM?
YEAH.
...
I'M SORRY. IT'S MY FAULT.
THUMP
THUMP
THUMP
THUMP
THUMP
THUMP
what's wrong?
JO?
HUH?

W-WHAT'S UP? JO?!

THUD

JO?!

HUFF

HUFF

JOOO!!

I wish they took a prettier photo of me.
WANTED

BURST angel™

BURST
angel

ズウウウ

ACT.5

Hff Hff Hff Hff

TWITCH

YOU CAN STILL MOVE, EH?!

OH?!

JO!

Hff Hff

OH, THE KNIFE!

POISON...

HOW AMAZING. THAT POISON'S STRONG ENOUGH TO TAKE OUT WILD ANIMALS.

HOWEVER, YOU CANNOT FIGHT WITH THAT BODY!!

Hff

Hff

Hff

Hff

COME OUT JO! OR I'LL DRAG YOU OUT.

Huh?

THERE YOU ARE.

COULD SHE BE...

...DOING THIS FOR ME?!

DASH

SLASH

BOOM

ROAAAR

JA-KI

ROOAR

...YOU CAN'T WIN!

HOW-EVER...

BRILLIANT! SUCH AGILITY, EVEN WHEN POISONED.

!!

MEG!

HUH?!

GRIN

GA-KON

JO...

BANG

THWIP

AAAA-
ARGH!

GUGH!

THUD

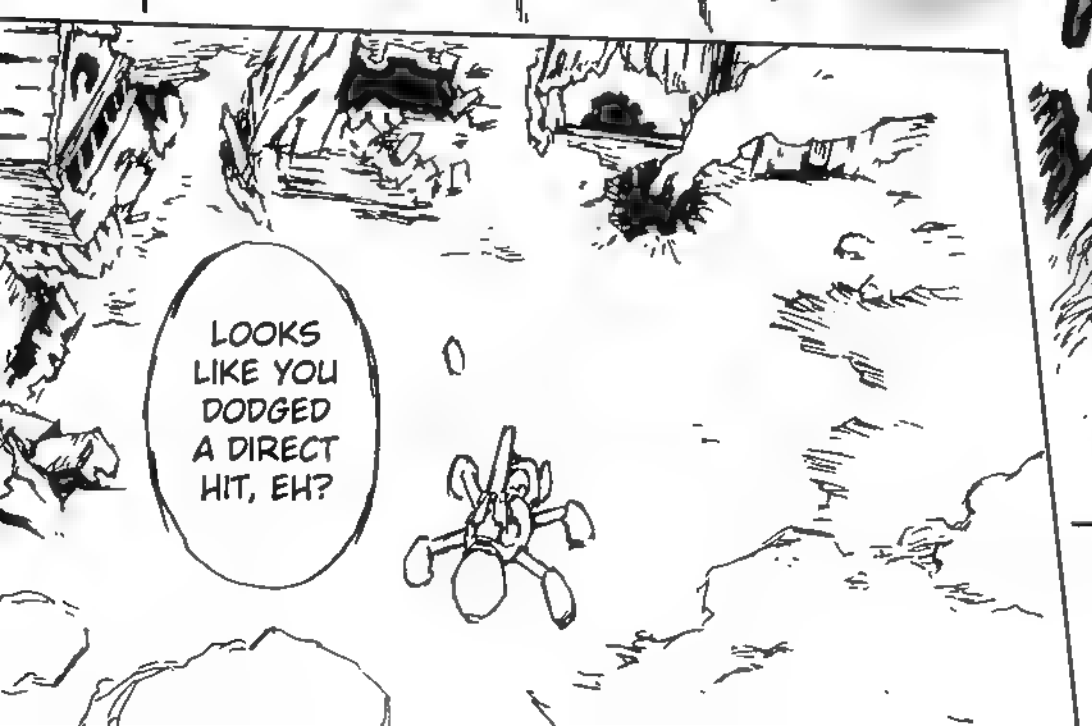
KA-SH

KA-BANG

KABOOM

ROOOAR

GROAN
...
SHHHHH


LOOKS LIKE YOU DODGED A DIRECT HIT, EH?

GEE.

FINISH HER OFF!

I REALLY AM IMPRESSED. BUT THIS IS THE END OF THE GAME!

STOMP STOMP

THUMP THUMP

PEEL

I MUST DO SOMETHING.

SO, I...

TAP

IT'S MY FAULT JO'S POISONED.

SWISH!!

!

JO!

JO!

SPLASH

...

STAND UP, JO!!

PLE-ASE!

STOP IIIIT!

WHOOOOSH!!

TONK!

GUGEEGEE

GAARGH

ARGH!

IT CAN'T BE!!

THAT KNIFE...

BANG

FWIP

GWA!

THUCK

TAKERU!!

TAKERUUU!

THUD

UGH!

...!

!

COME ON, TAKERU!

TAKERU!

JO...

I'M SORRY. IT'S MY FAULT.

THAT'S FINE. DON'T SPEAK!

THANK YOU... YOU'RE SO KIND.

UGH...

HUFF.

HUFF.

YOU NEVER MISCOUNT REMAINING BULLETS, RIGHT?

SMILE

BE-SIDES ...

KIND? ME?

I KNOW YOU DID IT TO PROTECT ME, RIGHT?

HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN I POINTED A GUN AT YOU?

WHAT ARE YOU TALK-ING ABOUT?!

...

TAKERU?

CAN... I BECOME STRONG?

STRONG LIKE... YOU...?

OH NO...

TAKERUUUU!!

GAA!

ROAR

GEE GEE GEE

STAGGER

STAGGER

GEE!

SWISH

THE WING PATTERN?!
OH, THAT'S...
NO WAY! WHERE HAS SHE GOT THE STRENGTH FROM?
HUH?! SHE STOPPED IT?
GEE GEE GEE
WHOOSH
GRAB!!

JO...

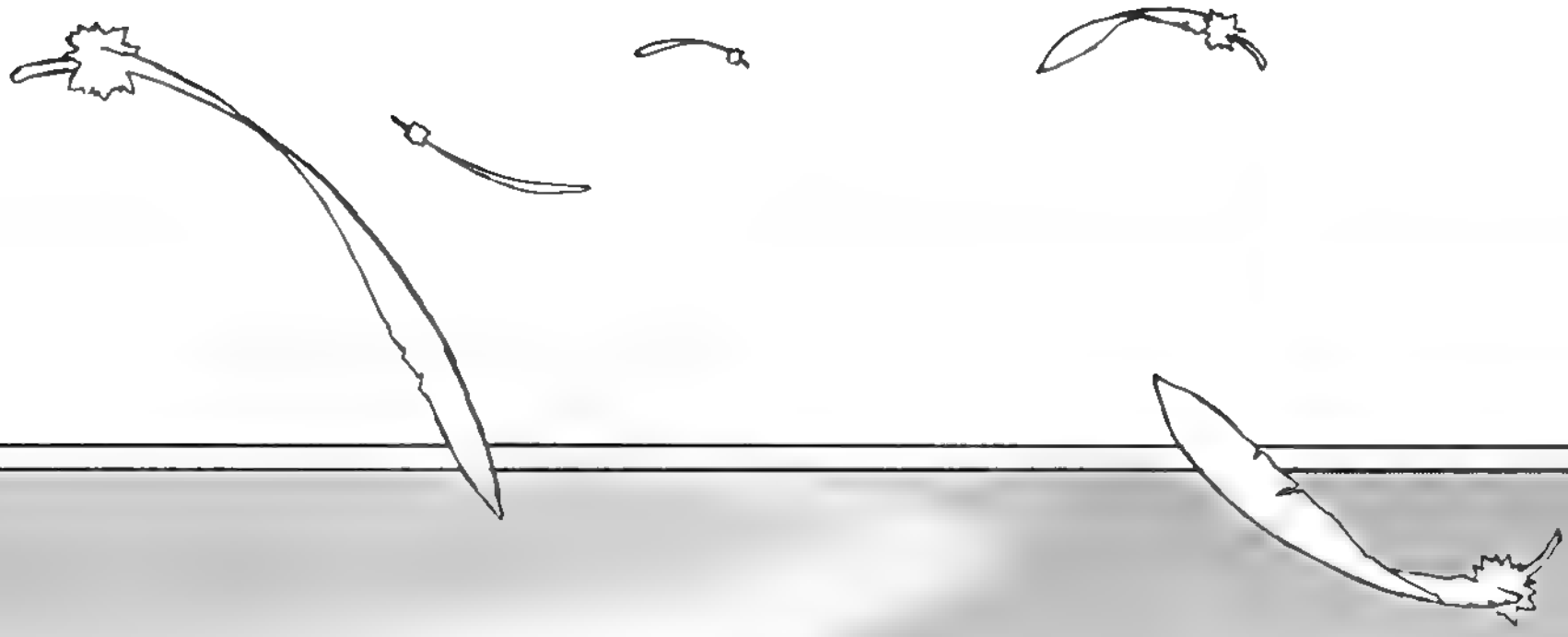
!

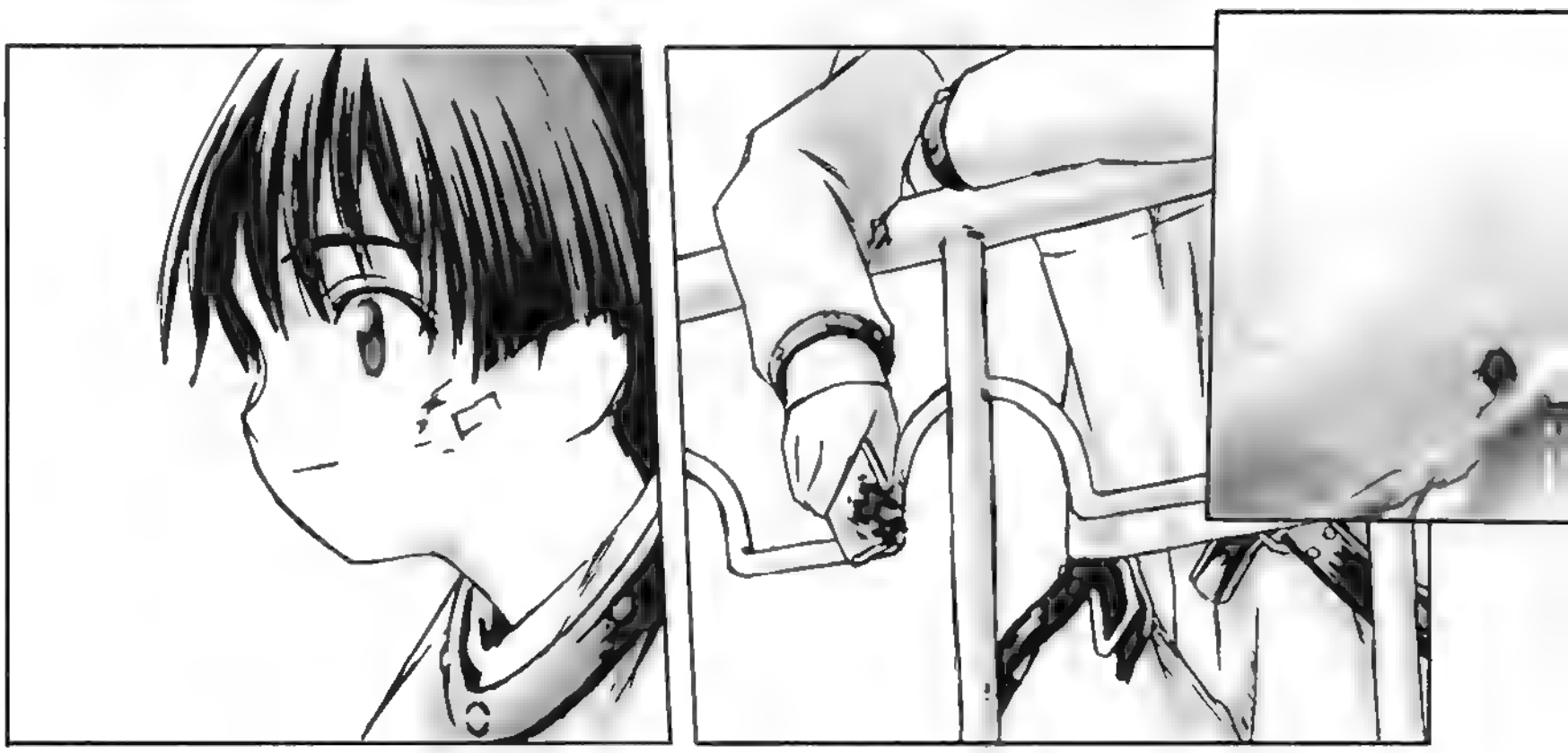
WHACK

SWISH

ゴオ…
ROAR
AR
DTHUMP
ROAAR
WAP
CRACK
GOOO.

SPLASH
BANG
JO, WHO ON EARTH...
...ARE YOU?!





No surprises there...

Those two were nowhere to be seen.

When I came around, I was on a hospital bed.

It sounds like an urban myth. Did it really happen...?

Two girls fighting in the shadows of Tokyo.

I KNOW YOU'RE JUST OUT OF HOSPI-TAL...

...BUT YOU OWE ME A MONTH'S WORTH!

BUT ...

YO! YOU LOOK WELL, TAKERU.

CLENCH

GRR

HGE!

ドカ

THUD

WHACK

Thanks to them, I think I could change a bit.

OUCH!

YOU BAS-TARD!

GET HIM!!

But even so...

I'll still get beaten.

SWING SWING

SWISH

ポチャ
PLOP

...I'LL TRY ON MY OWN!

BEEP

BEEP

BEEP

BEEP

AMY, WITHDRAW THE BOUNTY ...

HUH?

WHY?

MMM

To Be Continued...

IS THAT ALL I GET IN VOLUME ONE?
TWO LITTLE PAGES AT THE END?

POSTSCRIPT

Hello. I'm Minoru Murao.

This is the first time I've drawn a manga, but... Oh my God, it is hard.

Every month, I'm feeling dizzy drawing. But when I saw my work in a real book on sale, it made me happy and embarrassed at the same time. I will keep working hard to entertain you even more. Thank you for your continuing support.

Lastly, big THANK YOU to the generous editorial department staff who gave me the green light when I had no experience, Rin Sakura who helped me, and all the people who picked up this volume.

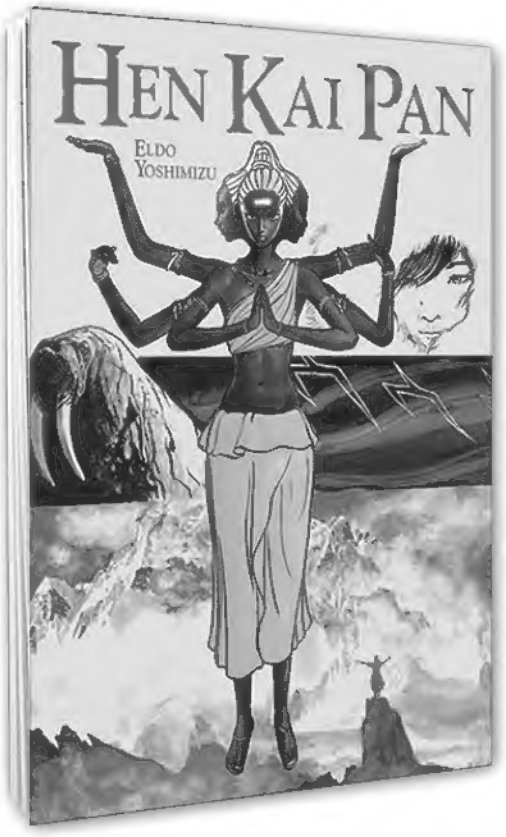
2004. 6.17

BURST
angel

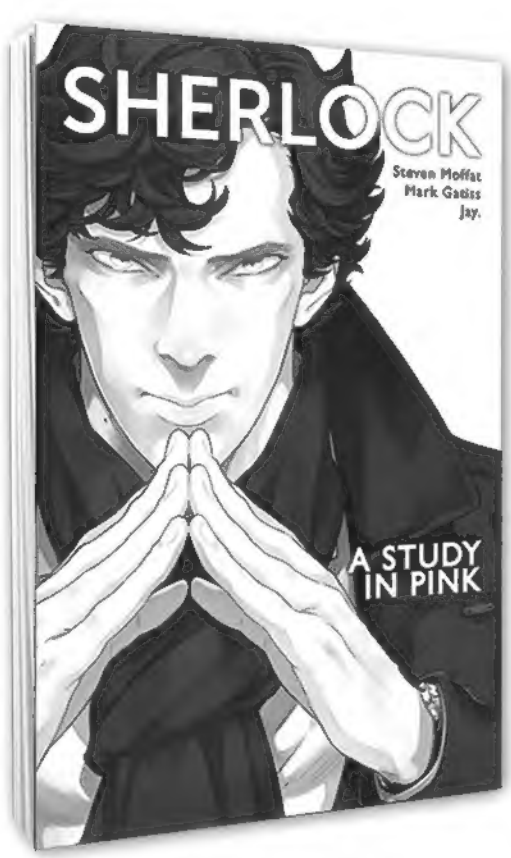
FAN FAVORITE MANGA!

RYUKO: VOL 1

GAMMA DRACONIS

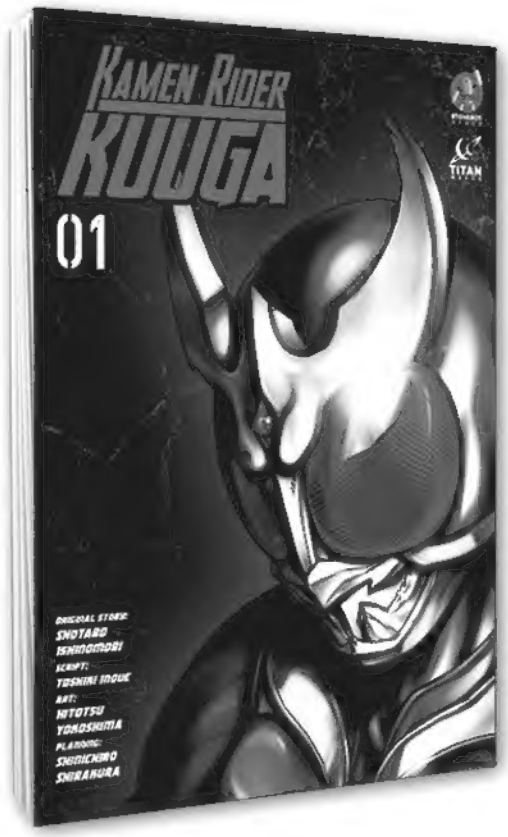


HEN KAI PAN



SHERLOCK: A STUDY IN PINK

ATOM: THE BEGINNING: VOL 1



KAMEN RIDER KUUGA: VOL 1

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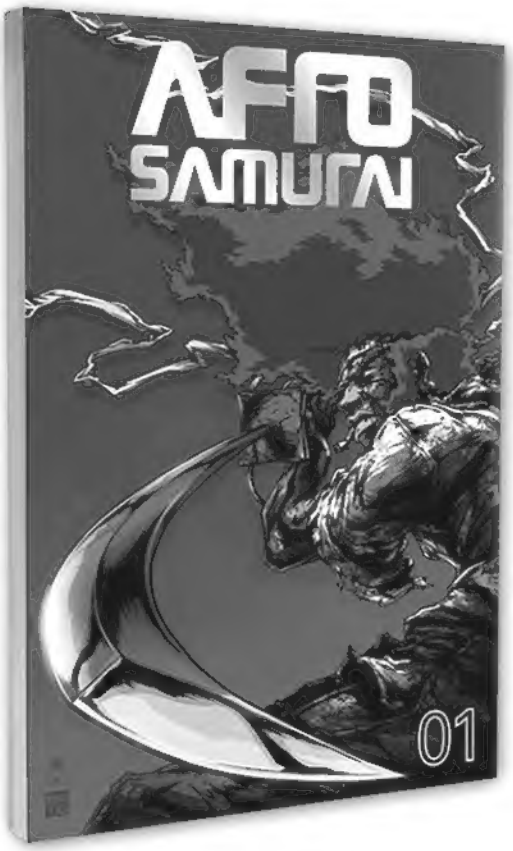
EXCITING, NEW MANGA!

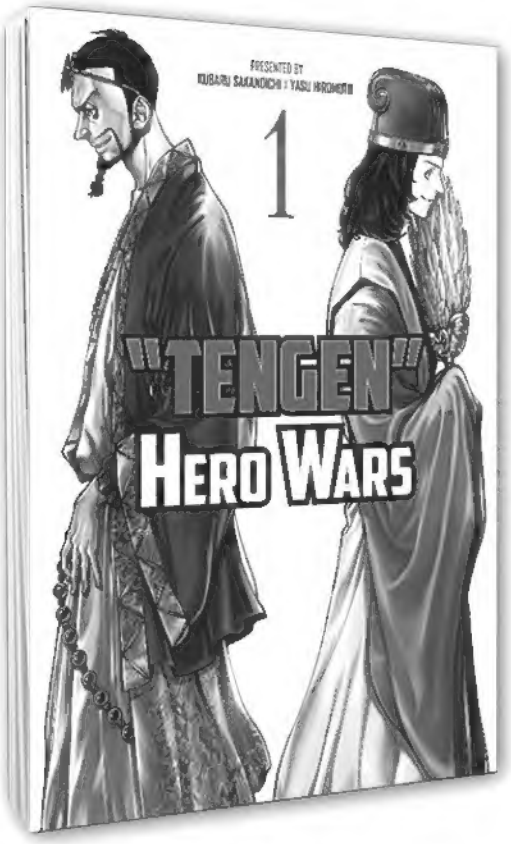
ALL OUT NOW



AFRO SAMURAI: VOL 1

ALPI - THE SOUL SENDER: VOL1

WITCH OF THISTLE CASTLE: VOL 1



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A timid Takeru's life takes a sudden turn when he crosses paths with Jo, an ace sharpshooter, and the kind-hearted Meg. The dynamic duo operates 'Jack Of All Trades', their business that requires them to thwart criminals, recover stolen treasures, and search for missing pets to earn a sweet buck. An adventure filled with bullets, blood, and battles sees Jo and Meg fight formidable foes and find solace in a hostile world.

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